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# U.S. hits International Criminal Court judges with sanctions over investigation into Israel

By **MATTHEW LEE** and **MOLLY QUELL**

**Associated Press**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The Trump administration is slapping sanctions on four judges at the International Criminal Court over the tribunal's investigation into alleged war crimes by Israel in its war against Hamas in Gaza and in the West Bank. The State Department said Thursday that it would freeze any assets that the ICC judges, who come from Benin, Peru, Slovenia and Uganda, have in U.S. jurisdictions. The move is just the latest step that the administration has taken to punish the ICC and its officials for investigations undertaken against Israel and the United States.

"As ICC judges, these four individuals have actively engaged in the ICC's illegitimate and baseless actions targeting America or our close ally, Israel," Secretary of State Marco Rubio said in a statement.

"The ICC is politicized and falsely claims unfettered discretion to investigate, charge, and prosecute nationals of the United States and our allies," Rubio said.



Secretary of State Marco Rubio speaks at the American Compass's The New World Gala in Washington, Tuesday, June 3, 2025.

**Associated Press**

"This dangerous assertion and abuse of power infringes upon the sovereignty and national security of the United States and our allies, including Israel."

In February, The Hague-based court's chief prosecutor, Karim Khan, was placed on Washington's list of "Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked

Persons," barring him from doing business with Americans and placing restrictions on his entry into the U.S. Khan stepped aside last month pending an investigation into alleged sexual misconduct. Within minutes of the administration's announcement, the court condemned its actions. "These measures are

a clear attempt to undermine the independence of an international judicial institution," ICC spokesperson Fadi El Abdallah said in a statement.

New sanctions widen the targets. The new sanctions target ICC Judge Reine Alapini-Gansou, who is from the West African country of

Benin and was part of the pre-trial chamber of judges who issued the arrest warrant for Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu last year. She also served on the bench that originally greenlit the investigation into alleged Israeli crimes in the Palestinian territories in 2021.

The 69-year-old was also part of the panel of judges who issued the arrest warrant for Russian President Vladimir Putin in 2023. Last year, a court in Moscow issued a warrant for her arrest.

From Slovenia, Beti Hohler was elected as a judge in 2023. She previously worked in the prosecutor's office at the court, leading Israel to object to her participation in the proceedings involving Israeli officials. Hohler said in a statement last year that she had never worked on the Palestinian territories investigation during her eight years as a prosecutor. Bouth Luz del Carmen Ibáñez Carranza, from Peru, and Solomy Balungi Bossa, from Uganda, are appeals judges at the ICC. Each woman has worked on cases involving Israel. □

# U.S. declines to label China a currency manipulator, but blasts its transparency policies

By **FATIMA HUSSEIN**

**Associated Press**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The U.S. declined to label China a currency manipulator in a new Treasury report

released Thursday, but accuses Beijing of standing out among America's major trading partners for lacking transparency in its exchange rate policies.



Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent walks at the White House, Tuesday, June 3, 2025, in Washington.

**Associated Press**

Treasury's semi-annual report to Congress called Macroeconomic and Foreign Exchange Policies of Major Trading Partners of the United States comes as the Trump administration seeks to strike a trade deal with China, averting a trade war that has been brewing between the two nations. A Treasury official told reporters previewing the report that the U.S. could in the future find evidence that China is manipulating its currency and will make a determination in the fall whether China has been manipulating the renminbi, also known as RMB. During President Donald Trump's first term, the Treasury, which was then led by Secretary Steve Mnuchin,

labeled China a currency manipulator in 2019 before then the U.S. had not put China on the currency blacklist since 1994.

Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said the administration "has put our trading partners on notice that macroeconomic policies that incentivize an unbalanced trading relationship with the United States will no longer be accepted."

"Moving forward, Treasury will use all available tools at its disposal to implement strong countermeasures against unfair currency practices," he said.

The decision not to sanction China for currency manipulation comes after Trump said Thursday that his first call with China's Xi

Jinping since returning to office was "very positive," announcing that the two countries will hold trade talks in hopes of breaking an impasse over tariffs and global supplies of rare earth minerals. "Our respective teams will be meeting shortly at a location to be determined," Trump wrote on his social media platform after the call, which he said lasted an hour and a half. Trump has lowered his 145% tariffs on Chinese goods to 30% for 90 days to allow for talks. China also reduced its taxes on U.S. goods from 125% to 10%. The back and forth has caused sharp swings in global markets and threatens to hamper trade between the two countries. □



# Trump orders investigation into Biden's actions as president, ratcheting up targeting of predecessor

By CHRIS MEGERIAN and  
MATT BROWN

Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — President Donald Trump on Wednesday directed his administration to investigate Joe Biden's actions as president, alleging aides masked his predecessor's "cognitive decline" and casting doubts on the legitimacy of his use of the autopen to sign pardons and other documents.

The order marked a significant escalation in Trump's targeting of political adversaries and could lay the groundwork for arguments by the Republican that a range of Biden's actions as president were invalid.

Biden responded in a statement Wednesday night: "Let me be clear: I made the decisions during my presidency. I made the decisions about the pardons, executive orders, legislation, and proclamations. Any suggestion that I didn't is ridiculous and false."

The Justice Department under Democratic and Republican administrations has recognized the use of an autopen to sign legislation and issue pardons for decades, Trump presented no evidence that Biden was unaware of the actions taken in his name, and the president's absolute pardon power is enshrined in the U.S. Constitution.

"This conspiracy marks one of the most dangerous and concerning scandals in American history," Trump wrote in a memo. "The American public was purposefully shielded from discovering who wielded the executive power, all while Biden's signature was deployed across thousands of documents to effect radical policy shifts."

Trump directed Attorney General Pam Bondi and White House counsel David Warrington to handle the investigation.

It's unclear how far Trump will push this effort, which would face certain legal challenges. But it reflects his fixation on Biden, who defeated him in 2020, an



President Joe Biden speaks from the Oval Office of the White House in Washington, Sept. 30, 2024.

election that Trump never conceded and continues to falsely claim was rigged against him.

Trump frequently suggests that Biden was wrong to use an autopen, a mechanical device that replicates a person's authentic signature.

Although they've been used in the White House for decades, Trump claims that Biden's aides were usurping presidential authority.

Biden issued pardons for his two brothers and his sister shortly before leaving office, hoping to shield them from potential prosecution under Trump, who had promised retribution during last year's campaign. Other pardon recipients included members of a congressional committee that investigated the Jan. 6, 2021, riot at the U.S. Capitol.

Trump often suggests that his political opponents should be investigated, and he has directed the Justice Department to look into people who have angered him over the years. They include Chris Krebs, a former cybersecurity official who disputed Trump's claims of a stolen election in 2020, and Miles Taylor, a former Department of Homeland Security official

who wrote an anonymous op-ed sharply critical of the president in 2018.

Meanwhile, House Oversight Chairman James Comer of Kentucky, a Republican, requested transcribed interviews with five Biden aides, alleging they had participated in a "cover-up" that amounted to "one of the greatest scandals in our nation's history."

"These five former senior advisors were eyewitnesses to President Biden's condition and operations within the Biden White House," Comer said in a statement. "They must appear before the House Oversight Committee and provide truthful answers about President Biden's cognitive state and who was calling the shots." Interviews were requested with White House senior advisers Mike Donilon and Anita Dunn, former White House chief of staff Ron Klain, former deputy chief of staff Bruce Reed and Steve Ricchetti, a former counselor to the president. Comer reiterated his call for Biden's physician, Kevin O'Connor, and former senior White House aides Annie Tomasini, Anthony Bernal, Ashley Williams and Neera Tanden to appear before the committee. He warned subpoenas would

be issued this week if they refuse to schedule voluntary interviews.

"I think that people will start coming in the next two weeks," Comer told reporters. He added that the committee would release a report with its findings, "and we'll release the transcribed interviews, so it'll be very transparent."

Democrats have dismissed the effort as a distraction.

"Chairman Comer had his big shot in the last Congress to impeach Joe Biden and it was, of course, a spectacular flop," said Rep. Jamie Raskin, the Maryland Democrat who served as the ranking member on the oversight committee in the previous Congress.

"And now he's just living off of a spent dream. It's over. And he should give up the whole thing."

Republicans on the committee are eager to pursue the investigation.

"The American people didn't elect a bureaucracy to run the country," said Rep. Brandon Gill, a freshman Republican from Texas.

"I think that the American people deserve to know the truth and they want to know the truth of what happened."

The Republican inquiry so

far has focused on the final executive actions of Biden's administration, which included the issuing of new federal rules and presidential pardons that they claim may be invalid. Comer cited the book "Original Sin" by CNN's Jake Tapper and Axios' Alex Thompson, which details concerns and debates inside the White House and Democratic Party over Biden's mental state and age.

In the book, Tapper and Thompson wrote, "Five people were running the country, and Joe Biden was at best a senior member of the board."

Biden and members of his family have vigorously denied the book's claims.

"This book is political fairy smut for the permanent, professional chattering class," said Naomi Biden, the former president's granddaughter.

Biden withdrew from the presidential race last summer after a debate against Trump in which he appeared to lose his train of thought multiple times, muttered inaudible answers and misnamed different government programs. The disastrous debate performance pushed questions about his age and mental acuity to the forefront, ultimately leading Biden to withdraw from the presidential race. He was replaced on the ticket by Kamala Harris, who lost the election to Trump. □





# Consultant behind AI-generated robocalls mimicking Biden goes on trial in New Hampshire

By **HOLLY RAMER**  
**Associated Press**

**CONCORD, N.H. (AP)** — A political consultant who sent voters artificial intelligence-generated robocalls mimicking former President Joe Biden last year went on trial Thursday in New Hampshire, where jurors are being asked to consider not just his guilt or innocence but whether the state actually held its first-in-the-nation presidential primary.

"This case is about a brazen attack on the integrity of the 2024 New Hampshire presidential primary election," Assistant Attorney General Brendan O'Donnell said in opening statements in Belknap County Superior Court.

Steven Kramer, who faces decades in prison if convicted of voter suppression and impersonating a candidate, has admitted orchestrating a message sent to thousands of voters two days before the Jan. 23, 2024, primary. The message played an AI-generated voice similar to the Democratic president's that used his catchphrase "What a bunch of malarkey" and,



**Steve Kramer is seated June 5, 2024, at Superior Court, in Laconia, N.H., during his arraignment in connection with charges of voter suppression and impersonating a candidate.**

**Associated Press**

as prosecutors allege, suggested that voting in the primary would preclude voters from casting ballots in November.

"It's important that you save your vote for the November election," voters were told. "Your votes make a difference in November, not this Tuesday."

Kramer, who owns a firm specializing in get-out-the-

vote projects, has said he wasn't trying to influence the election but rather wanted to send a wake-up call about the potential dangers of AI when he paid a New Orleans magician \$150 to create the recording.

"Maybe I'm a villain today, but I think in the end we get a better country and better democracy because of

what I've done, deliberately," Kramer told The Associated Press in February 2024. Ahead of the trial, prosecutors sought to prevent Kramer from arguing that the primary was a meaningless straw poll because it wasn't sanctioned by the Democratic National Committee.

At Biden's request, the DNC dislodged New Hampshire

from its traditional early spot in the nominating calendar, but later dropped its threat not to seat the state's national convention delegates. Biden did not put his name on the ballot or campaign there, but won as a write-in.

The state argued such evidence was irrelevant and could confuse jurors, but Judge Elizabeth Leonard denied the motion in March, saying the DNC's actions and Kramer's understanding of them were relevant to his motive and intent. She did grant the prosecution's request that the court accept as fact that the state held its presidential primary election as defined by law on Jan. 23, 2024. Jurors will be informed of that conclusion but won't be required to accept it.

Defense says the only attack came from the DNC. In his opening statement, defense attorney Thomas Reid said the robocall was Kramer's "opinion and commentary" on the DNC's initial decision to block the state's delegates to the convention. □

# A mural honoring Jackie Robinson and Minnie Miñoso is defaced with racist graffiti in Miami

**MIAMI (AP)** — Police are investigating after vandals defaced a mural of baseball legends Jackie Robinson and Minnie Miñoso that is part of a collection of artwork honoring baseball players in Miami's Overtown neighborhood.

The vandalism was discovered Sunday by a 7-year-old boy who asked his mother what the words and the Nazi symbols meant, community leaders said during a news conference. City workers have since partially covered the murals of Robinson and Miñoso, an Afro-Cuban player, with wooden boards. The murals are along a fence at Dorsey Park, where Negro League teams once played baseball.

"I know you may not be able to show it on television, but we need the community to uncover the hurt

and the hatred that is existing. The reason why this keeps being perpetuated is because we keep covering

it up," said Terrance Cribbs-Lorrant, an executive director with the city of Miami Black Police Precinct.

On Wednesday, Democratic U.S. Rep. Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick said in a statement that she is outraged by the "vile act of hatred."

"We must treat this for what it is: a hate crime meant to instill fear and division. But we will not be intimidated. We will respond with unity, resilience, and an unwavering commitment to truth, justice, and the preservation of our history," she said. Robinson broke the color barrier in Major League Baseball in 1947 when he became the first Black player, signing with the Brooklyn Dodgers. Miñoso

became the league's first Afro-Latino player and the first Black player for the Chicago White Sox.

The murals have been displayed in the park since 2011 and are a collaboration between artists Kyle Holbrook and Kadir Nelson and various community groups.

Police have yet to make any arrests for the vandalism.

"This was more than a defaced mural it was an attempt to silence our story," said Dr. Saliha Nelson, CEO of Urgent, Inc.

"But we will not be erased. We will restore this mural and celebrate this space as a symbol of agency, pride, and excellence." □



**Murals of baseball legends Minnie Miñoso, left, and Jackie Robinson, center, are covered with plywood after being defaced in Miami's Overtown neighborhood, Thursday, June 5, 2025, in Miami.**

**Associated Press**



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## Afghans who helped America during the war plead for an exemption from Trump travel ban

By MUNIR AHMED

Associated Press

**ISLAMABAD (AP)** — Afghans who worked for the U.S. during its war against the Taliban urged President Donald Trump Thursday to exempt them from a travel ban that could lead to them being deported to Afghanistan, where they say they will face persecution.

Their appeal came hours after Trump announced a U.S. entry ban on citizens from 12 countries, including Afghanistan.

It affects thousands of Afghans who fled Taliban rule and had been approved for resettlement through a U.S. program assisting people at risk due to their work with the American government, media organizations, and humanitarian groups. But Trump suspended that program in January, leaving Afghans stranded in several locations, including



Press Afghan refugees hold placards during their meeting to discuss situation after President Donald Trump paused the U.S. refugee programs, in Islamabad, Pakistan, Friday, Jan. 24, 2025. Associated

Pakistan and Qatar. Pakistan, meanwhile, has been deporting foreigners it says are living in the

country illegally, mostly Afghan, adding to the refugees' sense of peril. "This is heartbreaking and sad

news," said one Afghan, who worked closely with U.S. agencies before the Taliban returned to power

in 2021. He spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss the issue, fearing Taliban reprisals and potential arrest by Pakistani authorities.

He said the travel ban on an estimated 20,000 Afghans in Pakistan could encourage the government to begin deporting Afghans awaiting resettlement in the U.S. "President Trump has shattered hopes," he told The Associated Press.

He said his life would be at risk if he returned to Afghanistan with his family because he previously worked for the U.S. Embassy in Kabul on public awareness campaigns promoting education.

"You know the Taliban are against the education of girls. America has the right to shape its immigration policy, but it should not abandon those who stood with it, risked their life, and who were promised a good future." □

## China issues warrants for alleged Taiwanese hackers and bans a business for pro-independence links

By CHRISTOPHER BODEEN

Associated Press

**TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP)** — China issued warrants Thursday for 20 Taiwanese people it said carried out hacking missions in the Chinese mainland on behalf of the island's ruling party, while separately banning dealings with a Taiwanese company whose owners mainland authorities called "hardcore Taiwan independence supporters."

Police in the southern manufacturing hub of Guangzhou said they were led by a man named Ning Enwei on behalf of Taiwan's independence-leaning Democratic Progressive Party but did not identify their al-

leged crimes.

Meanwhile, China's government said all commercial contact had been banned with the Siguens International Company Ltd., which it says are led by member of the national legislature Puma Shen and his businessman father, calling the two men die-hard independence supporters. Websites mentioning Siguens say it specializes in sourcing bicycle parts from China.

Shen is also the head of the Kuma Academy, an organization that encourages Taiwanese people to prepare for possible invasion. The DPP swiftly dismissed China's accusations.

"This is clearly a case of the Chinese Communist Party fabricating a pretext to stir up trouble. When it comes to infiltration, cyberattacks, cognitive warfare and gray-zone threats, the CCP is by far the most serious perpetrator," said Michael Chen, the DPP's acting director of International Affairs. Gray-zone warfare refers to offensive tactics short of open combat.

"What we are seeing now is a textbook example of the bully crying foul," Chen said. China considers Taiwan its own territory, to be brought under its control by force if necessary.

Zhu Fenglian, a spokesperson for the Taiwan Affairs

Office of the China's Cabinet, said Siguens "engages in trade and business coop-

eration with certain mainland enterprises in pursuit of economic benefits." □



Attendees walk past an electronic display showing recent cyberattacks in China at the China Internet Security Conference in Beijing, on Sept. 12, 2017.

Associated Press



# U.N. food agency appeals for \$46 million to help 2 million Haitians facing severe hunger

By **EDITH M. LEDERER**  
**Associated Press**

**UNITED NATIONS (AP) —**

The U.N. food agency is appealing for \$46 million for the next six months to help about 2 million Haitians in dire need of food, including 8,500 at the worst catastrophic level of hunger.

The appeal was issued by Lola Castro, the World Food Program's regional director for Latin America and the Caribbean, who recently returned from Haiti, where escalating gang violence has displaced well over 1 million people and left half the population 5.7 million people in urgent need of food.

Two million of them are in the two worst categories in the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification, the leading international authority on hunger crises, and 8,500 are in the worst Phase 5 category, she said. That means at least one in five people or households severely lack food and face starvation and destitution.

Haiti is one of only five countries in the world that have people in the Phase 5 category of catastrophic hunger, Castro said, "and it is really dramatic to have



**A woman combs the hair of another at a shelter for families displaced by gang violence, in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Thursday, May 22, 2025.**

**Associated Press**

this in the Western Hemisphere."

Gangs have grown in power since the assassination of President Jovenel Moïse in July 2021 and are now estimated to control 85% of the capital and are moving into surrounding areas. Haiti has not had a president since the assassination, and the top U.N. official in the country said in April the country could face "total

chaos" without funding to confront the gangs..

A U.N.-backed mission led by Kenyan police arrived in Haiti last year to help quell gang violence, but the mission remains understaffed and underfunded, with only about 40% of the 2,500 personnel originally envisioned.

The WFP, the world's largest humanitarian organization, is among the U.N. agencies

facing funding cuts, mainly from the United States, which provided nearly half of its funding in 2024.

Castro said WFP reached over 1.3 million people this year until March using carryover funds from last year. But the agency is facing a dramatic situation now with food stocks only until July to assist with emergencies, new displacements or hurricanes, she said.

In the past four years, Castro said WFP always had stocks to help between 250,000 and 500,000 people with any emergency.

"This year, we start the hurricane season with an empty warehouse where we have no stocks for assisting any emergency, or we have no cash neither to go and buy (food) locally if it was possible in some areas, or to do a rapid humanitarian response," Castro said. "We are very concerned that a single storm can put hundreds of thousands of people in Haiti again into humanitarian catastrophe and hunger."

WFP normally provides a meal every day for around 500,000 school children, but that number will be cut in half without additional resources, she told a video press conference on Tuesday. With \$46 million, she said, WFP will be able to help the 2 million Haitians in most need of food, keep providing school meals for half a million children, and provide social protection for very vulnerable people in camps for the displaced. Haiti must not be forgotten as the world deals with other crises, Castro said, urging donors to be generous. □

## Indonesia arrests foreign nationals in Bali on drugs charges that could carry the death penalty

By **FIRDIA LISNAWATI and EDNA TARIGAN**

**Associated Press**

**DENPASAR, Indonesia (AP) —**

Indonesian authorities on the tourist island of Bali on Thursday announced the arrests of several for-

foreign nationals, including an Australian, an Indian, and an American, on suspicion of possessing narcotics, charges that could carry the death penalty.

Customs officers at Bali's Ngurah Rai International Airport arrested an Indian national with the initials H.V., who was carrying a duffel bag, in the customs and excise inspection area on May 29. The officers found narcotic-related items in his belongings, authorities said.

Following up on the interrogation of H.V., later that day, officers from the National Narcotics Agency of Bali Province arrested an Australian man with the

initials P.R., who has been visiting Bali since 1988.

P.R. asked H.V. to bring the duffel bag from Los Angeles to Bali, said I Made Sinar Subawa, an official from the narcotics agency, at a news conference.

During a search at a house where he stayed, officers found some narcotics in the form of hashish, a cannabis concentrate product, that belonged to P.R. and had been purchased over the Telegram messaging app. The hashish was shipped from Los Angeles and Philippines before finally received in Bali, Subawa said. Officers seized 191 grams (6.7 ounces) of hashish along with some

candies consisting of tetrahydrocannabinol, and 488 grams (17.2 ounces) of marijuana.

Both P.R. and H.V. are now suspected of dealing in narcotics, based on the evidence that was found with them, Subawa said.

"P.R. is suspected of violating Indonesia's Narcotics Law which carries the death penalty, life imprisonment, or imprisonment for a minimum of four years and a maximum of 12 years," said Subawa. Along with H.V. and P.R., the agency also arrested W.M., an American, on May 23 while he was collecting a package from a post office in Bali. □



**Australian national identified as P.R., second left, and an Indian national identified as H.V., left, who were arrested for drug possession, react during a National Narcotics Agency press conference in Denpasar, Bali, Indonesia Thursday, June 5, 2025.**

**Associated Press**



## The Aruban way of life

### Creating community with Cas di Torto

(Oranjestad)—The Aruban people understand that a happy life is spent in great ambience with your loved ones. Passed down from one generation to the other, building community has been a key aspect in forging our traditions and customs. The Cas di Torto (mud house) played a big role in cultivating community, bridging families together and forming close bonds with your neighbors—something we highly value today.

#### Cas di Torto: History and construction

The origin of the Cas di Torto is said to date back to the early 19th century in the Paraguana Peninsula in Venezuela. Refugees who sought sanctuary on Aruba introduced this building method to the island.

The uprights of the walls were made with sturdy and straight wayaca or kwihi wood, or from thin mangrove struts. Then, the wattle walls were weaved in using branches and twigs from the warero and sisal plant, daubed with a mixture of grass and mud. Finally, the walls got a coat of white plaster to seal everything in.



For roofing, corn stalks, palm fronds and straws were used, allowing air to flow freely through the house. This method of roofing was known throughout the ABC islands (Aruba, Curacao, Bonaire), but the use of cornstalks in Aruba eventually got replaced with use of mud and white plaster for the roofs. The white plaster all around made the houses look like cake, hence the name "Torto" (Spanish for "cake").



help in the construction of a Torto House. And everyone had a role: The men oversaw the building of the house, and the women were tasked with collecting wood and straws, cooking and taking care of the little ones.

#### Building community

Building Torto houses was often a community effort. Young couples who were about to get married had to have their house built before they could tie the knot and start their own family. This is where the help of the community comes into play. Neighbors, extended family and friends would all

The couple's family were primarily responsible for feeding everyone who helped build the house. Before construction, someone usually had the task to prepare the meal; going fishing or slaughter farm animals like goats, chicken or sheep. Even the older kids had their tasks; the older children of the family usually helped with collecting



water and mixing the mud. The average duration of constructing a Cas di Torto was 4 months.



At the end of a long day of work, everyone would gather around and enjoy a feast of hearty food. This type of help from friends and family became a tradition and was called "paga lomba": You help me today; I'll help you tomorrow. Nowadays, traditional Cas di Torto are rare, especially

those that are still inhabited. Houses that do exist probably date back more than a century.

**Picture credits:** Aruba National Library (BNA) and the Monumentbureau archive on Coleccion.aw



## Place names in San Nicolas and their origins

(Oranjestad)—If you're ever taking a tour of Aruba, San Nicolas would definitely be on your itinerary. From relaxing on the white, sandy beaches of Baby and Roger's Beach, to exploring the prehistoric caves of Quadirikiri and Fontein, you are taking in a full view of what San Nicolas has to offer. But did you know that you are also passing through areas whose names have historical origins? Here are a few place names in San Nicolas and their origin story.

#### Sero Colorado

On your way to Baby or Roger's Beach, you'll pass by the famous Red Anchor at what was once the entrance to the Colony

residential community and be greeted with red soiled hills by the coast. This is Sero Colorado. Named after the 30-meter, deep red, limestone hill, "Sero Colorado" translates to "Colored Hill". Sero Colorado has deep historical ties with the once-thriving phosphate industry in the area. Matter of fact, there are still underground shafts and passages deep in Sero Colorado from the time of phosphate mining. In 1958, the refinery at the time, Lago, adopted this name for the residential section of its employees.

#### Vader Piet

Another well visited area, Vader Piet is located in the Arikok National Park. Recognizable sites within



this area includes the Wind Mills and the Quadirikiri Cave. The origin of this name is part historical and speculation, as there are slight deviations from what actually happened.

In 1829, Pieter Lampe was a planter and the person responsible for governing this remote area. As the story goes, Pieter was well known and beloved for his kindness and good treatment of his employees, and was therefore also called Vader Piet (Father

Piet). However, he was tragically murdered—some speculate at the hands of a slave. For his work and good heart, the area was named after him.

#### San Nicolas

Of course we can't forget San Nicolas itself. Much like Vader Piet, the origin of the name San Nicolas has so far two different accounts. In the literal sense, "San Nicolas" translates to "Saint Nicolas", leading many to believe that this district was named after a Spanish saint. Though one account

does support this with the theory that the district was named after the saint by Spanish colonizers, the other account is much less divine, but does refer to an influential figure in the area.

Nicolaas van der Biest was a successful landowner during the time of the phosphate boom in late 19th century Aruba. Back then, landowners (most, if not all of them men) were referred to as "Shon" by their subordinates. So, the district was originally named after Shon Nicolaas. Over time, the name evolved into what is now San Nicolas.

**Source:** "Aruba: Short History" by Dr. J. Hartog.



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## Aruba's underwater wonderland

**ORANJESTAD** - Exploring the underwater wonders is something you should definitely do during your stay in Aruba. The underwater world has everything to offer that makes a snorkel trip so exceptional; an impressive, colorful sea life with exotic fishes, turtles and beautiful coral reef. The historic shipwrecks, located on the Aruban seabed are also worth a visit. Aruba is known for its white beaches and blue oceans, which means there are many fascinating under water spots, where you can take your snorkeling gear and we selected the top spots for you.

### Tres Trapi

Tres Trapi means tree steps in Papiamentu, Papiamentu is together with Dutch the official language spoken on Aruba. The beach is called Tres Trapi because it is accessible by the tree steps carved into the rocks. Tres Trapi is a small rocky beach, located on the north-western side of the



island, approximately 5 to 10 minute drive from Palm Beach. From the unique steps you can easily walk over the beach into the clear and turquoise blue ocean. While snorkeling you will encounter all kind of tropical fishes and sea stars. The kind of starfish you will find in the Aruban waters is the red cushion sea star. This is a starfish that is commonly found in the shallow waters of the Caribbean sea and if you are lucky during your snorkeling visit to Tres Trapi, you may come across one of the

green sea turtles. Respect the animal, keep your distance and enjoy the view. Also remember; it is a once in a life time experience.

### Antilla shipwreck

Antilla is a 400-foot-long ship, built in 1939 in Hamburg, Germany. Antilla came to Aruba, because it had to find a neutral port. When Germany invaded the Netherlands on May 10, 1940, the crew decided to let their own ship sink, to prevent it from falling into the hands of the Dutch Navy. Antilla lies on its port-side in Malmok bay, and the sunken world war two ship is now one of Aruba's most popular snorkeling and dive spots. However, the ship wreck can only be reached by boat. The ship is visible from the surface and during your snorkeling trip you be surrounded by hundreds of tropical fishes, but the ship wreck alone is already impressive enough.

### Baby Beach

Baby beach; a white beach, with a crystal blue



ocean. The beach is located on the southern part of the island. On the way to the famous beach, you will drive through the old capital of Aruba, San Nicolas. The old Aruban culture can be still felt and experienced here, so do not hesitate to get out of your car and walk around for a while. Baby beach is a child friendly beach, since it is shallow and the water has a pleasant temperature. The name therefore fits well with the beach. Baby beach is an excellent beach for snorkeling, especially if you want to go with small children, because the water remains shallow and there are still many underwater wonders to see. In the ocean there is an area marked until where it is recommended to snorkel and on the beach you will find different facilities. It is a perfect beach to spend your day snorkeling and relaxing.

### Mangel Halto

Mangel Halto beach is located in Savaneta, on the



southern-west part of the island. The beach is different from the other beaches in Aruba; it is beach full of mangroves. You reach the beach by a bridge through the mangroves and then you will have several entrances to the sea. There are diverse spots where you can enjoy a perfect beach day, wooden stairs made to enter the water and a dock to sit on and enjoy the view. Mangel Halto is also worth a visit for the snorkeling experience. Inside the bay, the water is clear and you find many colorful fish. Outside the bay is a bit more challenging for beginners because of the wind and the waves, but the coral is alive and it is just like snorkel heaven.



## Join ACF's Full Moon Hike!

The Aruba Conservation Foundation (ACF) is hosting another one of their famous Full Moon Hikes and is inviting the community to participate for spectacular hike through Aruba's Na-

### tional Park Arikok

Wednesday, June 11th, 2025, starting early in the evening at 6:30 PM, hikers will meet at the Arikok Visitor Center at San Fuego,

Santa Cruz. This hike will take you up Sero Boonchi and Sero Arikok. Participants are asked to bring enough water and a small flashlight. This hike will take approximately 2.5 hours

and covers 4.0 Km / 2.49 Mi of distance.

Don't miss on an opportunity to get up close to nature as you trail under the guidance of an experi-

ence ranger. Register using the link <https://forms.office.com/r/cWMrE5a1>. or call the ACF at 585-1234 for more information. Limited spots available.



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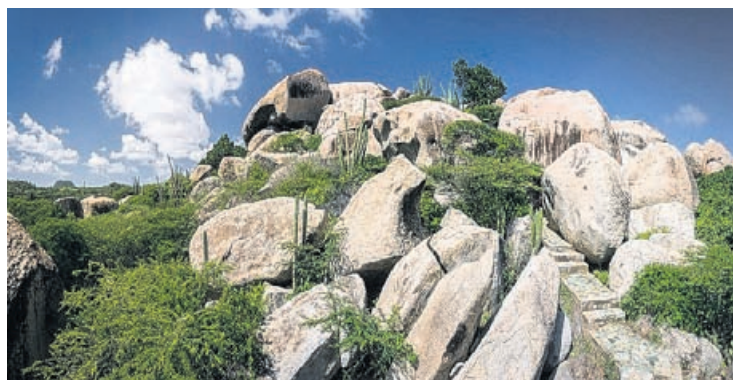


## Ayo & Casibari: Aruba's famous rock formations

(Oranjestad)—The Ayo and Casibari Rock Formations are known locally as one of the crucial sites to have in your "off-road" trip itinerary. These naturally formed rock formations as just one of the few places on the island that hold a rich history of our culture and of our ancestors.

### Ayo

The Ayo Rock Formation is located in the northern part of the island, right on the road that leads you to the Black Stone Beach, and close to the Natural Bridge. The Ayo is a fenced terrain that consists of several giant boulders, resting neatly on top of or side by side each other, adding gorgeous natural architecture to the surrounding "mondi"\*. This is also one of the few sites to contain prehistoric markings of our indigenous an-



cestors. The Ayo Rock formation contains stairs that lead you to the top of the highest boulder, offering a breath-taking view of the Aruban backyard. The Ayo is usually quiet, as it is situated farther away from the busier parts of the island. However, this is just another charm of the site: the quiet area and the refreshing breeze offer a sense of comfort and peace.

### Casibari

Probably the busier rock

formation site, the Casibari is situated more in the center of the island, much closer—and more accessible—to the general public. Just like Ayo, Casibari is a fenced area containing several boulders that lay on top or lean on each other. The best aspect of the Casibari Rock Formation is the accompanying view when you climb up the top of the round, flat bolder. For this position, you can see the majority of the island and the ocean in the

south. Right in front of the entrance, there is the Casibari Café and Grill, a great place to get refreshments and snack before continuing your off-road adventure!

Both sites are open free to the public, 24 hours a day. However, unless you are taking a trip with a professional tour guide, there are no guides at the sites to

help you climb the rock. So, do be careful when trudging on the boulders, and make sure to befriend any roaming goats you see along the way!

\*Mondi: what we call our Aruban wilderness. We don't have forests, or deserts, but we do have mondi!



## Aruba Tourism Authority honored loyal visitors at Marriott's Aruba Surf Club!

The Aruba Tourism Authority recently had the great pleasure of recognizing Goodwill Ambassadors of Aruba. The honorees were respectively honored with a certificate for their years of visits, loyalty, and love for the island of Aruba.

The honorary certification is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation and to say "Masha Danki" to guests who have visited Aruba 10, 20, or 35 years or more consecutively.

The three levels of honor

are as follows:

Distinguished	Visitor
(10>years consecutively visiting Aruba)	
Goodwill	Ambassador
(20>years consecutively visiting Aruba)	
Emerald	Ambassador
(35>years consecutively visiting Aruba)	

The honorees were:

Goodwill Ambassadors  
Mr. Micheal and Mrs. Judy Paul from Gainesville, Georgia, USA.

Ms. Keyttin Silva, representing the Aruba Tourism Authority, and staff members of Marriott's Aruba Surf

Club bestowed the certificate upon the honorees, presented them with gifts, and thanked them for choosing Aruba as their favorite vacation destination, as their home away from home.

The top reasons for returning to Aruba provided by Mr. and Mrs. Paul were:

- Dependable weather.
- The staff and people are so nice at the Surf Club.
- Restaurants and great dinners.
- Aruba's safety.
- Same time zone.



On behalf of the Aruba Tourism Authority, we would like to express our sincere gratitude and ap-

preciation to the honorees for their continued visits to the "One Happy Island".



## Ever heard of the cah'i orgel? A key instrument in Aruban folklore music

**(Oranjestad)—The cah'i orgel music box is an important and unique instrument that is used on the ABC islands in the Dutch Caribbean. This instrument is a staple in our folklore music, and its significance in the traditions of Aruba has and continues to bring together the old and young.**

The origin of the cah'i orgel is said to have come from Europe around 150 years ago. A cross breed between the barrel piano and the organ, the most popular stories said that the instrument came from either England or Germany, but made its way to Italy down to Venezuela, where in 1881, Mr. Horatio Sprock (1866-1949) from Curacao was first introduced to it. After that, Sprock made his own cah'i orgel "Josefina",

and successfully debuted it on the streets of Barquisimeto. Back in Curacao, he started his own cah'i orgel business along with his brother Luis. In Aruba, it is said that the cah'i orgel was introduced by Rufo Wever, who later in his career became one of the composers for the Aruban national anthem.

Rufo Wever was a young musician in 1937 when he established his own cah'i orgel business on the island. Before that he experimented with his uncle's cah'i orgel, and he over the years he learned to build and repair the instrument. In fact, he was incredibly skilled in this, and he was one of the few to have recognized from the start that the cah'i orgel is an instrument that needs preserving.

As mentioned, the cah'i orgel is a music box, made from mahogany wood, it contains a cylinder with a maximum of eight music pieces. By rotating the lever on the front side of the box, the cah'i orgel produces music similar to that of a piano, and is accompanied often by someone else playing the "wiri", a percussion instrument made out of steel and reminiscent to the Spanish guiro. Back then, you would often also find someone playing the triangle alongside the cah'i orgel and wiri. In Aruba, the cah'i orgel and wiri is used for traditional music genres, such as the Aruban waltz, tumba, mazurka and more.

Fun fact: another name for the cah'i orgel is the "tingilingi box."  
Source: "E Cilinder Magico



entre Aruba y Curaçao" by Nidia Rosaria-Wallé. Marilyn Alcalá-Wallé, Herta Parabirsing-Balentina and

## Lessons from our elders: Plants and fruits for medicinal use

**(Oranjestad)—Though western medicine is now widely used for common illnesses and to keep our bodies healthy and happy, it is still very common in every household in Aruba (and around the world) to have staple home remedies that is passed on through generations. Here are some tips that our elders have passed on to us over the years.**

### Pineapple

Pineapple has more uses than topping it on your Christmas ham. According to elders, the skin of a pine-

apple is great to use to refresh your body. Clean the skin thoroughly and make tea or warapa\* with it. It is said that this tea can also be drank after an operation on the ovaries or uterus. This gets rid of irritation and inflammation.

When the fruit is unripe and green, this can be used to stimulate menstruation flow in women. This also stimulates the passing kidney stones. When ripe, the fruit can be used for poisoning in the gut and can help treat rheumatic diseases, like arthritis.



However, breastfeeding women who cannot produce much milk are advised not to consume too pineapple, and people with acid reflux are recommended to not consume any pineapple at all.

### Arrowroot

Arrowroot is native to tropical America and can be sold as a powder or whole. It is said that you can take arrowroot powder and make a "shalup" (porridge) for stomach pain or when you're feeling weak. You can make it with milk too, but it is advised to best use just water. You can also add prunes for a bit of sweetness. Arrowroot shalup is also good to treat an unhealthy gut or for diarrhea.

To make arrowroot shalup, boil a bit of water and add one tablespoon of arrowroot powder and stir continuously until you reach porridge consistency. If you make a shalup with milk, add a pinch of salt. Raw



arrowroot powder can be used to powder babies.

let it mix with your spit and then swallow.

### Eggplant/Aubergine

Eggplants, or aubergines, are easy to find in supermarkets around the world and can be grown all year round on the island. Related to potato and tomato, eggplants are good to calm nerves. It can also be used to lower blood pressure, by steeping its leaves in boiled water and drinking it. You can also make eggplant juice to help purify your blood. However, do make sure to drink slowly;

Eggplant kataplan\* can also be used to treat skin tumors, abscesses and hemorrhoids. Eggplant kataplan can also be used externally to treat arthritis.

\*warapa: term referring to a water and sugar solution, a.k.a simple syrup.

\*kataplan: porridge-like mixture used externally for wounds or parts of the body that are painful or swollen.



# Aruba: the legend behind its name

(Oranjestad)—Most folkloric tales and legends in Aruba revolve around our indigenous ancestors, who came from mainland Venezuela, and discovered the island and made it into their new home. This particular legend tells the story of the birth of the Aruba name.

The legend follows the life of Arua, an indigenous Cacique originally from Aroa in the Falcon state in Venezuela in the year 50 AD. Arua had a son around the year 70 AD with his wife Shira, who they named Corobori. When Corobori was old enough, he joined his father on the usual boat trip to the islands of Curaçao and Bonaire to gather salt.

On their way back to Mainland Venezuela, they were caught up in a heavy rain storm—a side effect from a passing, but far away, hurricane. Of course, because of the lack of motors and sail, their boat was left in the mercy of the heavy winds. After a while, the storm started to pass, and the clouds began to clear up. Finally able to see around them, the Cacique spotted land approximately an hour away. So, they started to row in that direction until they reached the coast.

Once they arrived on what they thought was Venezuela, they decided to stay the



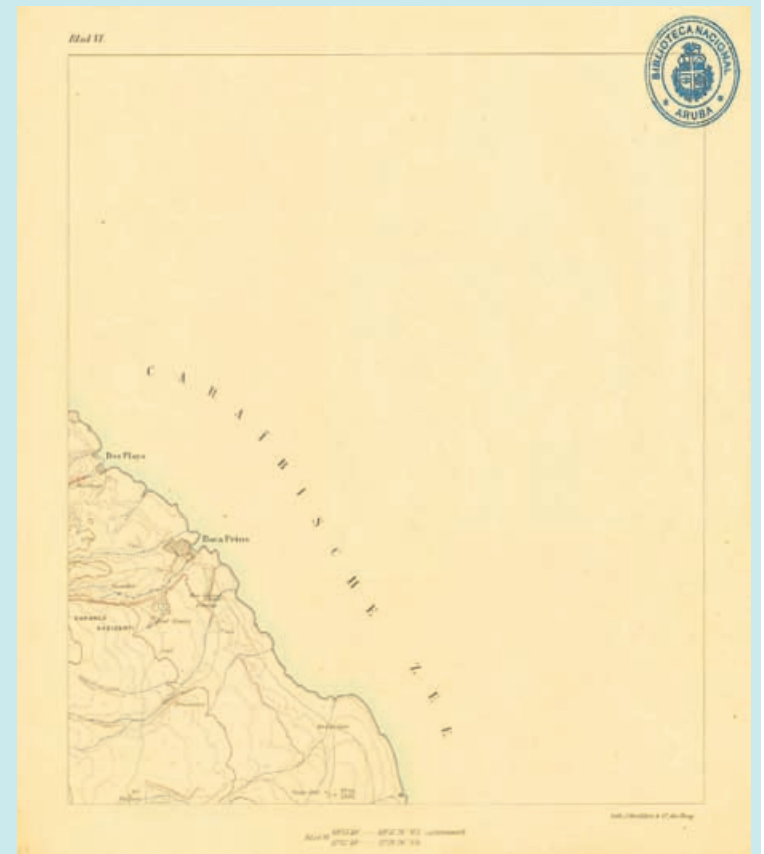
night and fix their kayak. The next morning, the Cacique ordered his son and a few warriors to go find any sign of population in the area: "Corobori," Arua said. "Don't come back without news. It's in your hands how long we stay here till we find our family. So, if you need to take a week to gather information, we will wait for you."

"Don't worry," Corobori replied. "As soon as we have any information, we will let you know." Armed with arrows and spears, backpacks filled with food and water containers, they set off. They climbed several

small hills, but no sign of a village. They crossed different dry riverbeds, but no sign of anything. When the sun finally descended, they found themselves near a fairly tall hill and decided to climb it for a better view of a village. This hill was called Pan Dushi or Orcuyo, which today we call Hooiberg.

The next morning, they could clearly see that they have landed on an island, but an unfamiliar one at that. When Corobori went back to where his father was waiting, he told him the news: "Father Arua, you have just discovered an island, but it is not Curaçao or Bonaire. Far in the south, we saw the big mountains of our homeland Venezuela, which we could have never seen on the other island. This leads us to believe we are on a new island. But that's not all. When the sun came up, we saw in the distance a glowing plain, which we think may be salt."

The Cacique was pleased to hear of his son's findings. He decided to stay a couple days on the newly-discovered island in search for salt. The next morning they ascended Hooiberg again and stayed to see if they could find nearby smoke, indicating an inhabitant village. But they found nothing. So they went back to



their initial arrival settlement, now known as Santo Largo in Savaneta. The next morning they hiked along the Spaans Lagoen near the Mangel Halto Beach and reached the area of Bushiri. There, they boarded their kayaks and heading to what we know now as Malmok, where they found rocks of salt. After a couple days of exploring the island and gathering some salt rocks, they left for Venezuela, where they were reunited with their families.

Throughout the year, they travelled back and forth to Aruba, collecting salt. After a while they settled on the island, generations of families living along the coast. Corobori was the first indigenous inhabitant in our history to explore the entirety of the island.

Arua, after decades as the leader of his tribe, spent his last days on the island. Having reached 80 years old, he called for his family on his death bed. In his hammock, he said: "My children, many years have passed, and I've asked my warrior to bring me back to the island so I can laid to rest. The God of living has given me the gift of life to see my son, grandchildren and great grandchildren. But now he is calling me home. Corobori, my torch is now passed to you. Guide

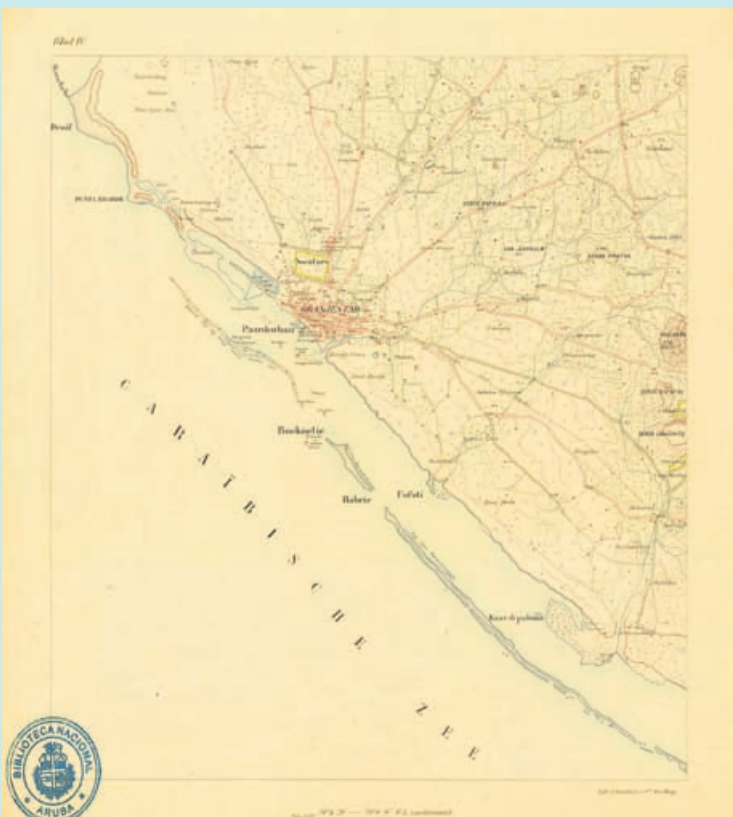
our people, and be the leader you were always meant to become. If one day you leave my island, do not forget that it is also yours. This is my last wish: When I die, bury me in our maize plantation."

And so when the Cacique passed away, his wishes were granted and he was laid to rest in the area we now know as the Parade-ra Cemetery. Where he used to live, they built the Parade-ra Church.

And that is the tale of what inspired the Aruba name. In the generations that lived or travelled back and forth to the island, there were many familiar names\*, like Guadiriki, a warrior who was there when the island got discovered and his son, whom he called Huliba; Corobori and his children, Corodori, Camacuri and Turibana, Masiduri; and Malmok, the 13-year-old boy who alerted the Cacique when the Caribes attacked.

Familiar names: all these names are familiar to Arubans, as these are the names of places and plants on the island.

**Source:** Un storia di e Indjan Arua (A story of the Indian Arua) by Adolf (Dufi) Kock





# CROSSWORD

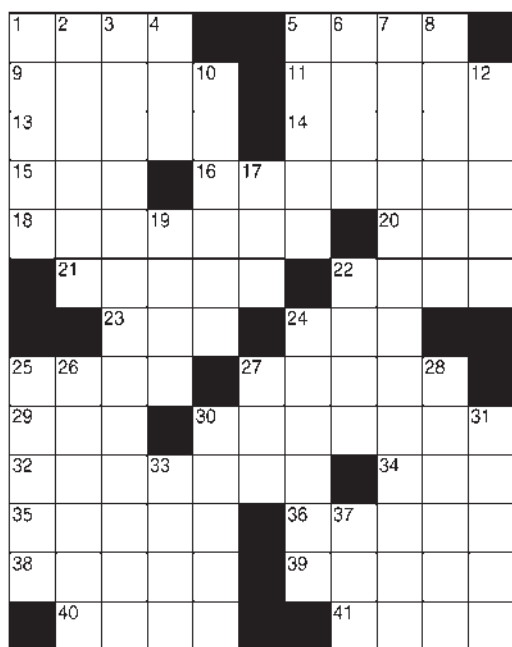
By THOMAS JOSEPH

## ACROSS

- 35 Machu Picchu something people  
5 Gushing review  
9 Less common  
11 In debt  
13 Cheer up  
14 Israel's Meir  
15 Pole worker  
16 Creeper supporter  
18 More high-minded  
20 Caesar's "hail"  
21 Ultra-excited  
22 A long time  
23 Cow's chew  
24 Phone bill addition  
25 Track event  
27 Most awful  
29 Boxing great  
30 Like Caravaggio's art  
32 Writer Kingsolver  
34 Ornate vase

## DOWN

- 1 Staggering  
2 Inexperienced  
3 Roundabout  
4 Match part  
5 "Message received"  
6 MP's quarry  
7 Statue setting, often  
8 Salad green  
10 Made new knots  
12 Nebula makeup  
17 Roulette bet  
19 Loyal  
22 Prefix with dynamic  
24 Seek food  
25 Zealous  
26 Singer Morissette  
27 Fighting  
28 Hit the sack  
30 Low singers  
31 Done  
33 Soothing stuff  
37 Rent out



6-9

AXYDLBAAXR  
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

## 6-9 CRYPTOQUOTE

P E K Z X W M E P G H L G H M Q P G A  
F N M M Q X Q H T P G X D D H L M Q X  
Q X E W M ' D E L L X Z M P H G D E G B  
M Q X M W N M Q H L M Q X

P K E A P G E M P H G. — I H Q G U X E M D  
Cryptoquote: GREEN WAS THE  
SILENCE, WET WAS THE LIGHT, THE MONTH OF  
JUNE TREMBLED LIKE A BUTTERFLY. — PABLO  
NERUDA

# Cruise ship Schedule: June 01 - 27 2025

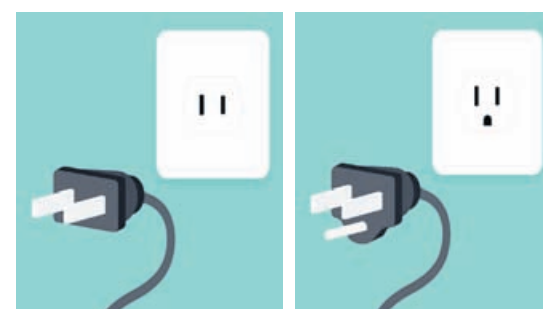
			ARR	DEPT	BERTH	
SUN	01	SILVER SHADOW FREEWINDS - Dept.	08.00 ****	23.00 22.30	C E	1 -
WED	04	RHAPSODY OF THE SEAS	08.00	23.00	C	1
TUE	10	CARNIVAL HORIZON CARNIVAL MARDI GRAS	09.00 13.00	23.00 23.00	C I	1 1
TUE	17	ADVENTURE OF THE SEAS CARNIVAL VISTA	07.00 13.00	16.00 23.00	B C	1 1
WED	18	CARNIVAL CELEBRATION RHAPSODY OF THE SEAS OASIS OF THE SEAS	08.00 08.00 07.00	22.00 23.00 16.00	C B I	1 1 1
TUE	24	CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	23.00	C	1
FRI	27	SEVEN SEAS MARINER	10.00	21.00	C	1

# Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basicbut important information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.

## Electrical power

Aruba generally operates on 110V to 127V supply voltage and 60Hz. There are also three types of outlets used on the island: type A with two flat prongs; type B with two flat and one grounding prong, and on occasion, type F with two round prong and two earth clips on the side. However, Type A is most commonly found in homes and establishments.



## Drinking water

The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the store.



## Supermarket hours

Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 9 or 10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.



## Safety

Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occurs, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.





# Cutting off rhinos' horns is a contentious last resort to stop poaching. A new study found it works



In this file photo taken Feb. 15, 2016, a de-horned rhino and her calf rest in their corral at a rhino orphanage in the Hluhluwe-Imfolozi Game Reserve in the KwaZulu Natal province South Africa.

Associated Press

By GERALD IMRAY

Associated Press

**CAPE TOWN, South Africa (AP)** — Cutting off the horns of sedated rhinos with a chainsaw has been viewed by wildlife conservationists in Africa for more than 30 years as a necessary evil to save the iconic endangered species from poaching. They hoped the drastic action was working, but evidence was scarce. Now, a study published Thursday in the academic journal Science has found that dehorning rhinos has led to a large reduction in poaching in game reserves in and around the Kruger National Park in northern South Africa an area that's home to 25% of the world's rhinos and is especially vulnerable to poaching. The results of the seven-

year study that ended in 2023 are seen as long-awaited evidence that removing rhinos' horns which needs to be done every one to two years because they grow back helps them survive, even if the animals lose part of their makeup. Consistently reduced poaching The conclusions seem obvious. Lucrative illegal markets in parts of southeast Asia and China crave rhino horns for use in traditional medicines, and removing the rhinos' horns take away what poachers are after. But Tim Kuiper, a biodiversity scientist at South Africa's Nelson Mandela University and the lead author of the study, said it was new to have long-term data from multiple sites on dehorning rhinos. He said

the study, conducted between January 2017 and December 2023, focused on 11 reserves in the Kruger area and compared data from eight that dehorned their rhinos against the three that didn't. It also analyzed data from the reserves before and after they dehorned their rhinos. The study showed that dehorning consistently reduced poaching, Kuiper said. It found that the dehorning of more than 2,000 rhinos resulted in a 78% reduction in poaching in those eight reserves, providing some confirmation that such an invasive intervention was worth it. "It is a big part of what a rhino is, having a horn," Kuiper said. "So having to remove it is kind of a necessary evil, if I can put it that way. But it's very effective. There's no doubt it saved hundreds of rhinos' lives." South Africa has the largest numbers of black and

white rhinos. Namibia, Zimbabwe and Kenya also have significant populations. There are around 17,500 white rhinos and 6,500 black rhinos left in the world, with black rhino numbers reduced from 70,000 in 1970 to less than 2,500 by the time poaching reached a crisis point in the mid-1990s, according to the Save the Rhino organization. □



## Marriott Aruba Surf Club

### PLATINUM SEASON

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2 Bed Oceanside: \$27,000  
2 Bed Ocean View: \$24,500  
2 Bed Garden View: \$20,000  
3 Bed Ocean View: \$36,000  
2 Bed WK 7 Oceanside: \$62,000  
\*Ask about weeks 51, 52 & 14\*

### GOLD SEASON

2 Bed Oceanfront: \$21,500  
2 Bed Oceanside: \$15,500  
2 Bed Ocean View: \$14,500  
2 Bed Garden View: \$13,000  
3 Bed Ocean View: \$30,000

## Marriott Aruba Ocean Club

### PLATINUM SEASON

2 Bed Oceanfront: \$60,000  
2 Bed Ocean View: \$29,000  
1 Bed Ocean Front: \$23,000  
1 Bed Ocean View: \$17,500

### GOLD SEASON

2 Bed Oceanfront: \$22,500  
2 Bed Ocean View: \$17,000  
1 Bed Oceanfront: \$13,000  
1 Bed Ocean View: \$11,500

\*\* Destination Points \$4.00 per point

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Caribbean Speed Printers N.V.  
Aruba Bank N.V. Acc. #332668  
Caribbean Mercantile Bank N.V.  
Acc. #23951903  
RBC Royal Bank Acc. #1330772

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## HEALTH

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### San Nicolas

Imsan 24 hours  
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## PHARMACY ON DUTY

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Kibrahacha: Tel. 583 4908

### San Nicolas:

Centro Medico: Tel. 584 5794

## OTHER

Dental Clinic 587 9850  
Blood Bank Aruba 587 0002  
Urgent Care 586 0448  
Walk-In Doctor's Clinic  
+297 588 0539

## EMERGENCY

Police	100
Oranjestad	527 3140
Noord	527 3200
Sta. Cruz	527 2900
San Nicolas	584 5000
Police Tipline	11141
Ambulancia	911
Fire Dept.	115
Red Cross	582 2219

## TAXI SERVICES

Taxi Tas	587 5900
Prof. Taxi	588 0035
Taxi D.T.S.	587 2300
Taxi Serv. Aruba	583 3232
A1 Taxi Serv.	280 2828

## TRAVEL INFO

Aruba Airport	524 2424
American Airlines	582 2700
Avianca	588 0059
Jet Blue	588 2244
Surinam	582 7896

## AID FOUNDATIONS

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FAVI- Visually Impaired  
Tel. 582 5051  
Alcoholics Anonymous  
Tel. 736 2952  
Narcotics Anonymous  
Tel. 583 8989  
Fundacion Contra Violencia  
Relacional Tel. 583 5400  
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# Shaq and Iverson team up to revive Reebok from obscurity in the Netflix docuseries 'Power Moves'

By JONATHAN LANDRUM Jr.  
AP Entertainment Writer

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Shaquille O'Neal and Allen Iverson once clashed on the court in the 2001 NBA Finals, but now the basketball legends are joining forces to revive the Reebok brand they helped make iconic.

In the Netflix docuseries, "Power Moves," which premiered this week, the Hall of Famers swap jerseys for executive titles, with O'Neal stepping in as president of Reebok Basketball while Iverson takes on the role as vice president. The six-episode series offers a behind-the-scenes look at their mission to spark a cultural resurgence for the classic sneaker company.

O'Neal, standing 7-foot-1, sees himself as a voice for today's big men. But when it comes to reaching the quick, gritty guards of this generation, he knows there's no better ambassador than the 6-foot Iverson, whose '90s signature shoes are still a staple in sneaker-head circles.

"I didn't build Reebok all by myself," said O'Neal, who won three straight NBA titles with the Los Angeles Lakers and another with the Miami Heat. He signed with Reebok in 1992 and made the brand popular with his



This image released by Netflix shows Shaquille O'Neal, left, and Allen Iverson in a scene from the series "Power Moves with Shaquille O'Neal."

Associated Press

first signature shoe, called the Shaq Attaq.

Iverson's signature shoes, The Question and The Answer, were some of the top sellers in the industry. He signed a lifetime endorsement and marketing contract with Reebok in 2001. "I needed A.I. to be vice president because if you're a guard, you want to see a legendary guard," he said. "I wanted to do a show that's not scripted. Not polished. I wanted it to be real work."

Iverson called document-

ing his role in helping revitalize Reebok a "full circle moment" while working alongside O'Neal, who he calls "big bro."

"I get the honor of doing this with (Shaq), having a relationship with him," said Iverson, the former Philadelphia 76ers guard, who was an 11-time All-Star and won the league's MVP in 2001 the same year O'Neal and Iverson faced off in the NBA Finals. Iverson was known for being an undersized guard who played with a supersized heart.

"The type of things I learn from him — on and off the court. He's just a beautiful guy," Iverson said about O'Neal. "He stands up to his faults. The things that he felt he did wrong in life. The way he treats his mom. All that resembles who I am. That makes this special."

Reebok, founded in 1895, became a household name in the early 1990s, thanks to Boston Celtics guard Dee Brown and his iconic Pump sneakers. The brand took off from there inking major deals with

O'Neal and Iverson, partnering with the NFL, NBA, NHL and MLB, and even stepping into hip-hop with signature lines for Jay-Z and 50 Cent's G-Unit.

But Reebok's cultural momentum began to fade after Nike doubled down on star power with Michael Jordan, Kobe Bryant and LeBron James. Adidas bought the company for \$3.8 billion in 2006, aiming to better compete with Nike on a global scale. Instead, Reebok struggled to find its footing, gradually losing its identity in both sports and style.

"Now it's time for us to get Reebok back to prominence," said O'Neal, who played a key role in Reebok's acquisition in 2021 by Authentic Brands Group, where he is a shareholder. "There's all these competitive brands, which is fine. It makes the job harder. But for me, it's all about motivation and trying to build." "Power Moves" dives into Reebok's strategy for staying relevant, including signing rising stars like WNBA phenom Angel Reese to the brand's first name, image and likeness (NIL) deal. The series also shows how O'Neal leans on a surprising source for insight into today's athletes through his son, Shareef. □



Ryan Reynolds, left, and Hugh Jackman pose for photographers upon arrival at the screening of the film "Deadpool & Wolverine" on July 11, 2024 in London.

Associated Press

By The Associated Press

Ryan Reynolds and Hugh Jackman became co-owners of the Australia SailGP team on Thursday. The "Deadpool & Wol-

verine" stars joined driver and CEO Tom Slingsby in leading the team's rebrand after several successful seasons, winning three championships in its

## Ryan Reynolds, Hugh Jackman join Australia SailGP team as co-owners

four seasons. The team will be called the BONDS Flying Roos, with the Australian underwear company BONDS as its title partner. "We're incredibly excited to set sail together in this new adventure," Reynolds and Jackman said in a joint statement released through SailGP. "Hugh brings a deep love for and pride in his home country, as well as being an avid fan of sailing. He will also be bringing his overly clingy emotional support human along for the ride. Apologies in advance to Australia. No comment on

whether we're writing this in our BONDS. No further questions."

It's the latest sports venture for Reynolds, who along with fellow Hollywood actor Rob McElhenney is a co-owner of Wrexham, one of the world's oldest soccer clubs. Reynolds and McElhenney were also among a group of investors in the Alpine Formula One team in 2023 and were part of an investment group that acquired Colombian club La Equidad earlier this year. The BONDS Flying Roos SailGP Team is expected

to make its debut at the Mubadala New York Sail Grand Prix starting June 7. Slingsby, an Olympic gold medalist, said in a release that Jackman and Reynolds bring "unmatched star power, a love for storytelling, and a sharp sense of (humor) that fits perfectly with our team."

"With BONDS joining as our Title Partner and the launch of the BONDS Flying Roos," Slingsby added, "we're building something distinctly Australian; a team driven by spirit, resilience, and national pride." □



# Aaron Rodgers ends months-long dance with Steelers, informs team he plans to sign, AP source says

By WILL GRAVES  
AP Sports Writer

**PITTSBURGH (AP)** — Aaron Rodgers and Mike Tomlin are taking their bromance to the next level.

The four-time NFL MVP ended months of “will he or won’t he” speculation by informing Tomlin and the Pittsburgh Steelers he plans to join the team for the 2025 season, a person with knowledge of the decision told The Associated Press on Thursday. The person spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity because Rodgers has not yet signed a contract.

The Steelers and the 41-year-old Rodgers had been circling each other for months. Rodgers even visited the team’s facility in late March, driving in undercover in a nondescript sedan wearing a hat and sunglasses.

While there were plenty of nice words from both sides in the aftermath, Rodgers didn’t rush to put pen to paper, telling “The Pat McAfee Show” in April that his attention was focused on helping people in his inner circle who were “battling some difficult stuff”



New York Jets quarterback Aaron Rodgers (8) reacts after a touchdown pass during an NFL football game against the Miami Dolphins Sunday, Jan. 5, 2025, in East Rutherford, N.J.

Associated Press

and that he didn’t want to decide until he knew he could fully commit.

With mandatory minicamp coming next week, Rodgers apparently finds himself in a place where he can give the Steelers his full attention.

Rodgers joins a team that has been stuck in a transitional period at quarter-

back since Ben Roethlisberger retired after the 2021 season. Either Rodgers or Mason Rudolph who returned to Pittsburgh on a two-year deal in March will likely be Pittsburgh’s fifth different Week 1 quarterback in as many seasons.

The Steelers have stayed competitive, up to a point anyway, amid the constant

churn at the most important position on the field. Pittsburgh has reached the playoffs four times in the last five seasons, only to be quickly escorted out of the postseason in lopsided fashion each time.

Justin Fields and Russell Wilson who combined to lead the Steelers to a 10-7 record and a playoff berth last sea-

son ended up in New York. Fields will replace Rodgers with the Jets after agreeing to a two-year deal. Wilson is heading to the Giants on a one-year contract.

Those deals left Rodgers and the Steelers without any other reasonable options. Both sides have their reasons for consummating what is essentially a marriage of convenience.

Rodgers hopes to author a happier ending to his Hall of Fame career after two eventful, if underwhelming, seasons with the Jets. While Rodgers is hardly a long-term solution in Pittsburgh, he is the best option left after the Steelers chose not to use one of their higher picks in April’s draft on a quarterback, instead taking a late-round flyer on former Ohio State star Will Howard.

The union brings Rodgers and Tomlin the longest-tenured head coach in major professional North American sports together after years of what is the football equivalent of flirting.

They’ve long held each other in high esteem and have enjoyed a handful of memorable on-field interactions that went viral. □

## Olympic star, 3-time pro champion Vasiliy Lomachenko announces retirement from boxing

By GREG BEACHAM  
AP Sports Writer

Vasiliy Lomachenko has announced his retirement from boxing after a decorated career that included two Olympic gold medals and professional world titles in three weight classes. Lomachenko announced his decision with a video on social media Thursday. “I am grateful for every victory and every defeat, both in the ring and in life,” Lomachenko said. “I’m thankful that as my career comes to an end, I’ve gained clarity about the direction a person must take in order to achieve true victory.”

The Ukrainian star burst onto the international boxing scene at the Beijing

Olympics in 2008, when the 20-year-old prospect steamrolled the competition.

He showed off athleticism, footwork and ring intelligence far beyond his years, clearly marking himself as a once-in-a-generation talent.

But he eschewed the professional sport and returned to win gold at the London Games four years later alongside Oleksandr Usyk, his close friend and the future undisputed professional world heavyweight champion. After going 396-1 as an amateur, Lomachenko finally embarked on a pro career largely spent in the U.S.

Lomachenko won the WBO featherweight title in

his third professional fight in June 2014, beating Gary Russell Jr. after ordering his promoters to get him a near-immediate title shot after turning pro. He won the junior lightweight belt in 2016 by stopping Román Martínez, and he added the WBA lightweight world title in 2018, stopping Jorge Linares.

Lomachenko finished his pro career 18-3 with 12 stoppage victories, incurring late-career decision losses to Teofimo Lopez and Devin Haney.

“It’s been an honor for all of us at Top Rank to promote the pro boxing career of Vasiliy Lomachenko,” said Bob Arum, Lomachenko’s U.S. promoter.

“He was a generational

champion, and we will all miss his participation in the sport.”

Lomachenko paused his career for several months after Russia’s invasion of

Ukraine, and he has fought only three times since 2021. He stopped George Kambosos Jr. in the 11th round of his final bout in May 2024. □



Vasiliy Lomachenko, of Ukraine, celebrates after defeating Guillermo Rigondeaux in a WBO junior lightweight title boxing match in New York, Dec. 9, 2017.

Associated Press





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## French Open: No. 1 Aryna Sabalenka ends Swiatek's reign and meets No. 2 Coco Gauff for the trophy

By **HOWARD FENDRICH**  
AP Tennis Writer

**PARIS (AP)** — Flecks of rust-colored clay dotted Aryna Sabalenka's back and caked her white shoes as she ripped big shot after big shot against Iga Swiatek on Thursday, the thud of racket-on-string reverberating off the closed roof at the main stadium at Roland Garros.

So used to hearing and believing she was a fast-court specialist who couldn't succeed on the slower red clay used at Roland-Garros, the No. 1-ranked Sabalenka showed just how good she can be on the surface by ending Swiatek's 26-match unbeaten streak at the French Open and bid for a record fourth consecutive trophy with a 7-6 (1), 4-6, 6-0 win in Thursday's semifinals.

Now Sabalenka will try to win her fourth Grand Slam title and first not on a hard

court when she takes on No. 2 Coco Gauff in Saturday's final.

It will be the first title match in Paris between the Nos. 1

and 2 women since 2013 and just the second in the past 30 years.

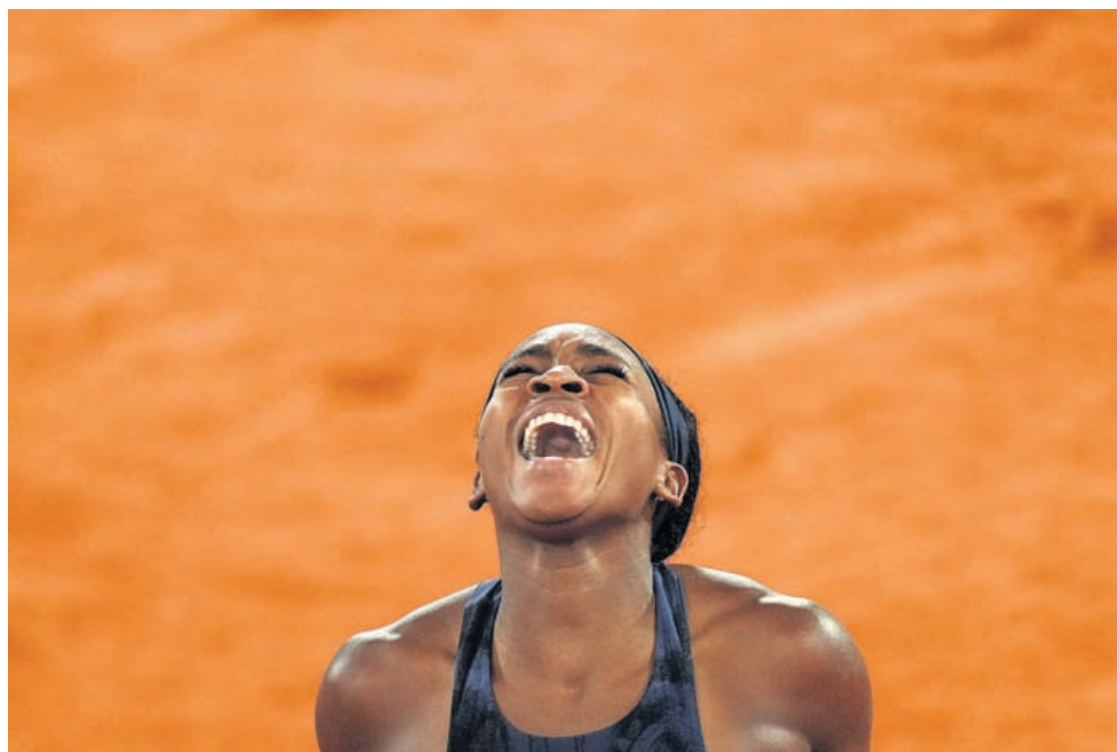
"It's going to mean everything to me and my team,

because I have to say that almost (my) whole life, I've been told (clay) is not my thing, and then I didn't have any confidence," Sa-

balenka said. "In the past I don't know how many years we've been able to develop my game so much, so I feel really comfortable on this surface and actually enjoy playing on clay."

Gauff, a 21-year-old American who was the runner-up in 2022 to Swiatek, reached her second French Open final by beating 361st-ranked French wild-card entry Loïs Boisson 6-1, 6-2 in a far-less-interesting, far-less-competitive semifinal.

"My first final here, I was super nervous, and I kind of wrote myself off before the match even happened," said Gauff, who is 5-5 against Sabalenka and beat her for the 2023 U.S. Open title at age 19. "Obviously, here, I have a lot more confidence just from playing a Grand Slam final before and doing well in one." □



**Coco Gauff of the U.S. celebrates as she won the semifinal match of the French Tennis Open against France's Loïs Boisson at the Roland-Garros stadium in Paris, Thursday, June 5, 2025.**

Associated Press